

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-third session

Item 3 (1) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: environmental-economic accounting

Document E/CN.3/2022/16 – Report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting

<i>Statement provided by:</i> General Authority for Statistics - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	
<i>Statement:</i> Saudi Arabia welcomes the Report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting and continues to support the adoption of the SEEA EA as a statistical standard. Saudi Arabia supports and commends the UNWTO’s work related to “Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism” (MST), supported by the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting. It is highly recommended to continue this important work, bearing in mind the key policy achievements noted below. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The AIUla Framework for Inclusive Community Development Through Tourism, endorsed by the G20 Leaders’ Declaration, encouraged the adoption and use of the MST framework at all levels to achieve sustainable and inclusive destinations. It also urged adoption and development of evidence-based tourism policy and management, emphasizing the need for a comparable international statistical framework for the impacts of tourism across the three pillars of the Framework – economic, social, and environmental.• On October 23, 2021, HRH Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman launched the Sustainable Tourism Global Center (STGC), a global multilateral alliance to accelerate the transformation of the tourism sector toward net-zero emissions. The STGC will facilitate growth while actively supporting the global efforts to protect nature and societies.• Saudi Arabia has conducted pilot studies on MST in the following areas:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Inbound & Domestic Tourist Consumption of Fuel, Electricity and Watero Domestic Tourist Consumption of Fuel in Land Transportationo CO2 emissions The General Authority for Statistics, in full alignment with the Ministry of Tourism Saudi Arabia, welcomes the development of a “Statistical Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism” (SF-MST), since the provision of globally comparable and consistent data is a prerequisite for full collaboration in the statistical community and global tourism sector on this topic. Due to the highly multidisciplinary nature of tourism, discussion of the SF-MST will need to consider ways to integrate disparate concepts and topics from multiple fields – this point in particular will require ongoing methodological guidance and collaboration across the relevant experts.	
<i>Submitted on:</i>	2/20/2022

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-third session

Item 3 (1) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: environmental-economic accounting

**Document E/CN.3/2022/16 – Report of the Committee of Experts on
Environmental-Economic Accounting**